No. 26,779.

WASHINGTON, D. C., SATURDAY, AUGUST 18, 1917—SIXTEEN PAGES.

250 MAY BE DEAD RESULT OF BLAST IN POWDER MILI

Great Plant at Rigaud, Quebec. Employing 5,000 Persons, Reported in Flames.

FORTY HOUSES WRECKED IN A NEARBY VILLAGE

Communication Cut Off and Only Meager Details of Disaster Have Been Received.

OTTAWA, Ont., August 18.-First reports received here from the scene of the powder explosion today at Rigaud, Quebec, state that in the neighborhood of 250

place. The first, at 9 o'clock, was heard in Vaudreuil, twenty miles away. It was followed by two others in quick

The explosion disrupted the telephone and telegraph communication with Rigaud, making it difficult to obtain information. Traffic on the Canadlan Pacific failroad's Ottawa-Montreal line, which passes close to the plant, has been suspended.

which passed been suspended.
Rigaud is a post village in Vaudreuil county, Quebec, on the Riviere a la Graisse, forty-five miles southwest of Montreal. It had a population prior to the war of about 1,000 persons.

Trainmen whe can away from the scene of the explosion reported that at Dragon, a little village near the pow-der plant, forty houses occupied by workmen were razed by the force of

The passengers said it was impossi-The passengers said it was impossible to obtain definite figures, as hundreds rushed into the open country when the first explosion occurred, and few had returned when their train left for Montreal.

The extent of the explosion may be judged by the fact that two farm-

two other explosions were cause fire which spread from the first.

STRIKERS WILL CONTINUE

Lumberjacks Will Remain on Job No Matter What Action the I. W. W. Leaders Take.

MISSOULA Mont. August 18 - More than 500 striking lumberjacks, members of the Industrial Workers of the World, who have been sent from Misforest service, will stick to their jobs even though the threatened general stike of the Industrial Workers is

The announcement is important, forest service officials say, because the fire engaged in the various shipbuilding service officials say, because the firesituation is now more serious than at
any time this year. Dangerous fires
are spreading rapidly through dry forests and men enough to combat them
successfully cannot be obtained.

Fires near Falson, Idaho, along the
Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul railroad, are the most serious in the district, and are said to be thretening the
power lines which supply the electrified
division of the road.

NATURALIZED AMERICAN **GLEEFULLY JOINS ARMY**

Alexander Schaffner Embraces Examining Surgeons When Told He Is Eligible for Service.

CONNERSVILLE. Ind. August 18. Presentation to Virginia Battalion of Infantry by Jefferson Club.

CONNERSVILLE. Ind. August 18. Presentation to Virginia Battalion of Infantry by Jefferson Club. Alexander Schaffner, formerly Alexander Koffovitch, who came to America from of Infantry by Jefferson Club.

Russia saveral years ago, today was one of the happiest men of draft age in Fayette county. Granted his first citizenship papers yesterday morning. Schaffner was ushered from the county clerk's office to the room where physical examinations for draft eligibles were being conducted. Schaffner made a special display of his physical prowess, and when told he was physically fit he emitted a series of yells and embraced the examining doctors. Then the morn where the examining doctors. Then he morn will not have dear to the last Battalion, 1st Virginia Into the last Battalion, 1st Virginia Inbeam of the homes of dicla's, where he is various conceription officials, where he is a starging and national anthems of other entered them, playing "The Star Spanged Bannerd and national anthems of other entered in the battalion. The amburanding the battalion on an accordion. Later he distributed cigars among his friends.

Consertiption officials contrasted his privit with the attitude shown by other make up.

The morn and complete ambulance of the type are and complete ambulance of the type and he provided the government has been presented to Gov. Henry C. Stuarts by With a military review and parade of morn and complete ambulance of the type and he provided and the private of the stoarts of the formation of a military club for allied Officers.

PARIS. August 18.—Para Baled Officers in Paris has presented of the type sented to Gov. Henry C. Stuarts by With a military club for the formation of a military club for the troops that have been presented to gove the private of the club of this city. This is the formation of a military club for the troops that have been formation of the traction of the tother the formation of the traction of the club of the club of the Russia saveral years ago, today was one Special Dispatch to The Star.

of the happiest men of draft age in Fay-

OFFERS DRASTIC MEASURE WAR TAX MEASURE TO PRESERVE ORDER HERE

Senator Myers Introduces Bill Aimed at Suffrage Picketing, With Ob- Income and Profits Provisions jectionable Banners.

Senator Myers of Montana introduced bill in the Senate today proposing me drastic amendments to the law to preserve order and peace in the Dis- FEW UNCONTESTED ITEMS trict of Columbia. The bill was referred to the committee on judiciary. Senator Myers, in a brief statement

to the Senate, said he was moved to in troduce this bill on account of the out rageous, scandalous and almost treason

rageous, scandalous and almost treasonable actions which have been going on around the White House for months. He said these actions constituted an insult to the President and to the people of the United States.

He declared that the branding of the President of the United States on the banners displayed before the White House as comparable with the emperor of Germany was the greatest despot and tyrant in history, a murderer, who has brought upon the world the greatest scourge it had ever known.

Denounced as Infamous.

He denounced as infamous.

He denounced as infamous the practice of picketing and displaying of banners and said that it ought to be stopped. It has been going on for months and if there is no adequate law to stop it then the law ought to be amended. "I believe the people of the country are tired and disgusted with the performance," said Senator Myers. "The President, out of the kindness of his heart, had pardoned some of the offenders, and he feared that the President had erred when he pardoned them. They had deserved their sentences of sixty days in the workhouse and should have served them.

Senator Myers insisted that there was no such intention, but he thought Congress should make the law so plain and drastic that it would put a stop to all such disorder in the future.

Penalties Imposed.

AMERICA IS TO MAKE

houses more than a mile from the plant were blown down. At noon the village of Dragon was blazing and it looked as if it would be destroyed.

The whole countryside was covered at 10 o'clock with a dense copper-colored smoke. A special train of doctors and nurses left here at 10:30 o'clock for the scene of the disaster.

The officials here of Curtiss & Harvey, Limited, lacked information as to the cause of the explosion. It was said that probably three hundred persons were working in the section of the plant where the first explosion took place. It is believed by the officials the two other explosions were caused by

It is generally taken to be the fact that President Wilson and Secretary Lansing will be aided by the tenor of the opinions of the other beliligerents and that the diplomatic representatives in Washington are exchanging the views of their governments with the State Department.

TO FIGHT FOREST FIRES SEE NO DANGER OF STRIKE AT BROOKLYN NAVY YARD

Shipyard Wage Contention Is to Be Reviewed at Meeting of Union Delegates Tuesday.

NEW YORK, August 18 .- While the general situation of the striking shipvard workers is to be reviewed at a ton, Oregon, stondard the I. W. W. is a general strike of the I. W. W. is unions to be held in Tammany Hall touch with the situation through Chief next Tuesday, it was said today that Justice Covington of the Supreme Court called next Monday, according to a there was no danger of the strike of the District of Columbia, his perstatement today by Arthur W. Smith, spreading to the employes of the sonal investigator now in the west. timated there were about 12,000 men

NEARS COMPLETION

Principal Item in Dispute in Senate.

Only a few of the uncontested provisions of the war tax bill remained to be disposed of when the Senate resumed ing of important features, among them being the wine and motor vehicle sched-

With the disposal of all the uncon tested provisions, the Senate's decks then will be cleared for action on the income and war profits taxes, the prin

cipal point in dispute. Senator Gore of Oklahoma offered a mendment today to the war tax bill providing that none of the money raised by the bill shall be expended for sending troops abroad unless soldiers have volunteered for the service.

in the neighborhood of 250
persons have been killed.

MONTREAL August 18.—A terrifice explosion at the powder plant of Curtis & Harvey, Limited, at Rigaud, Quebec, today is believed to have caused heavy loss of life. Five thousand menand women are employed at the plant, which covers an area of five square miles.

Reports received here soon after the explosion said the plant was nearly all fin flames. Passengers on a Canadian Pacific railroad train, which passed the scene of the disaster, placed the number of dead from the first explosion at twenty.

Three Explosions Reported.

From points near Rigaud it was learned that three explosions took place. The first, at 9 o'clock, was learned that three explosions took place. The first, at 9 o'clock, was learned that three explosions Approved.

The same going on to months of the miss on adquate law to stop in the law ought to be amended. The beautiful the the law ought to be amended. The beautiful the the law ought to be amended. The beautiful the the law ought to be amended. The beautiful the the law ought to be amended. The beautiful the the law ought to be amended. The beautiful the the law ought to be amended. The beautiful the the law ought to be amended. The beautiful the the law ought to be amended. The beautiful the the law ought to be amended. The beautiful the the law ought to be amended. The them the law ought to be amended. The them the law ought to be amended. The them the law ought to be amended. The beautiful and disguated with the persons the senator Wyers. The fork kindness of his there for chart, and pardoned some of the of-fenders, and he feared that the President the president the president them. They had deserved them. They had deserved them. They had deserved them. They had deserved them. They senator Underwood of Alabama providing that war increases in postage rates shall not be defined them. The senator Wers of his constitution of the senator Washing and providing that war increases in postage rates shall not be feared that. The President had er

the new automobile and other reduced taxes being substituted.

The Senate also accepted the finance committee's action in striking out the House provision for additional faderal taxation of inheritances, designed to raise \$6,000,000. New England senators protested that inheritances are a prime source of local, state taxation and should not be interfered with by the federal government.

The reply of the United States to the Pope's peace note will be sent independently and not in connection with any answer from the other belligerents. At least this is the plan at this time as indicated by Secretary Lansing. A reply may not be expected until the note has been carefully considered.

It is generally taken to be the fact that President Wilson and Secretary Lansing will be reduced by 10 per cent for each year's use of the machine up to a gross allowance of 50 per cent.

ON MOVES BY I. W. W.

Chief Justice Covington Is Reporting Direct on Western Labor Troubles.

President Wilson, in making a personal study of the labor situation in the northwest, especially in Washingmeeting of delegates of the various threatened next Monday, is keeping in

Situation Still Is Grave.

limated there were about 14,000 men lengaged in the various shipbuilding trades out on a strike in New York and vicinity. The men ask for an increase in wages of about 50 cents a day, making the wage for skilled labor \$4.50 a day. It was learned today that the men working at the navy yard are being paid the \$4.50 rate, and that the union men were satisfied with conditions at all government plants.

The strike spread yesterday to the vards of the Standard Shipbuilding Company, the New Jersey Drydock Company, at Elizabeth, N. J., and its allied yards on Staten Island, and to the repair yard of the Morgan Steamship Company. It was estimated that about 3,500 workers joined the strikers yesterday.

The strike at the Standard Shipbuilding the strikers yesterday.

The strike at the Standard Shipbuilding the strikers yesterday with the strikers and the strikers yesterday with the strikers yesterday.

May Avert Coal Strike.

Department of Labor conciliators on the ground reported over night that the strillation of the better, although it was still grave. Offers of made in some instances and will probably be made in others today.

Department of Labor conciliators on the ground reported over night they change in the situation have distincted by the government still plant the ground reported over night they change in what change in some instances and will probably be made in others today.

Department of Labor contiliators on the ground reported over night they change in what change in the situation have still grave. Offers of made in some instances and will probably be made in others today.

Washington, the state attorney general profit to be made by its representative. The plant is confirment probably in the commendation, it was reported over night reports, saw little thange in the situation. A recommendary pr Department of Labor conciliators on to commandeer lake freighters for

EIGHT-HOUR DAY ISSUE MENACES BRITISH ROADS

don Involves Many Railway Engineers and Firemen.

LONDON, August 18 .- There is con-

seems, however, that there is some an-tagonism between the two unions. It is predicted that if the strike develops the government will take very strong

GREAT LAKES FREIGHTERS FOR WAR TRADE SERVICE

Federal Agent at Cleveland to Commandeer, Craft for Coastwise and Transoceanic Traffic.

CLEVELAND, Ohio, August 18 .- A representative of the United States shipping board was in Cleveland today definitely initiating government plans

Officials in close touch with the threat-

SMALL COMMITTEE IS TO FLOAT NEXT LOAN RESUMED MONDAY

Danger of Immediate Strike at Lon- Work in Second Federal Reserve Justice Carter Announces All Sides Bank District Is Already Being Planned.

NEW YORK, August 18 .- The actual By the Associated Pre Penalties Imposed.

The previsions of the finance committed to the finance committed to provide a policy of inflammatory in the District applies to war time only, and imposes penalties of a fine of not less than \$100 or more than \$1,000, one more than \$1,000, or imprisonment. For not less than thirty days nor more than one year, or both fine and imprisonment.

The proposed law applies to banners whose wording is calculated to bring the House provisions levying a 5 per cent. The proposed law applies to banners whose wording is calculated to bring the House provisions levying a 5 per cent. The proposed law applies to banners whose wording is calculated to bring the House provisions levying a 5 per cent. The proposed law applies to banners whose wording is calculated to bring the House provisions levying a 5 per cent. The proposed law applies to banners whose wording is calculated to bring the House provisions levying a 5 per cent. The proposed law applies to banners whose wording is calculated to bring the House provisions levying a 5 per cent. The proposed law applies to banners whose wording is calculated to bring the House provisions levying a 5 per cent. The proposed law applies to banners whose wording is calculated to bring the House provisions levying a 5 per cent. The proposed law applies to banners whose wording is calculated to bring the House provisions levying a 5 per cent. The proposed law applies to banners whose wording is calculated to bring the House provisions levying a 5 per cent. The proposed law applies to banners whose wording is calculated to bring the device of the first local transfer of the first local siderable danger of an immediate work in connection with the flotation | CHICAGO, August 18.-The coal sit-

is hoped to put the necessary legisla tion through the House inside of a week after the committee acts

FEATURES WORTH READING

Among the many features to be found tomorrow in The Sunday Star the fol-lowing are of particular appeal: NATIONAL SERVICE FOR AMERICA

Another in the really remarkable
series of articles, by ISAAC F. MARCOSSON.

COSSON.

"MISSING—PAGE 12"—An unusually interesting detective story, by Agna Katherine Green, in her series of stories (each complete in itself) entitled "THE PROBLEMS OF VIOLET STRANGE." WASHINGTON MYSTIC GIVES STARTLING EXHIBITIONS OF "OC-CULT TRUTHS."

CLLT TRUTHS."

CAMP CITIES TO BE HOMES OF OUR BIG NATIONAL ARMY.

"ROMANCE AND ADVENTURE IN THE RISE OF EDWARD N. HURLEY," by JAMES B. MORROW. AEALING BADLY MUTILATED ITAL-IAN SOLDIERS BY THE MERE POWER OF SUGGESTION. HOW EVERY AMERICAN WOMAN CAN TAKE PART IN THE CONSERVA-TION OF FOOD AND HEALTH.

"WHEN TASTE AND KNOWLEDGE OF DRESS IS NECESSARY," by ANNE RITTENHOUSE. RITTENHOUSE.

REAL PIONEERING WITHIN A FEW
MILES OF WASHINGTON—A wonderfully interesting story of a man who
went back to the soil a few years ago
and made a success of it.

"THE CAPE TO CAIRO LINE AS A
RESILT OF THE EUROPEAN WAR,"
by CHARLES M. PEPPER.
THE RAMBLER WRITES OF THE
SEWALL AND BARBOUR FAMILIES.
UISTORY OF THIS GREAT WAR IS.

HISTORY OF THIS GREAT WAR IS ALREADY BEING WRITTEN. TEACHING SAUMIES IN FRANCE TO PROTECT THEMSELVES," by STERLING HEILIG. ORGANIZING THE LUMBER INDUSTRY FOR THE ARMY AND NAVY," by FRANK G. CARPENTER.

by FRANK G. CARPENTER.

IN THE PLANGGRAVURE SECTION:
A NYMBER OF REMARKABLE WAR
PHOTOGRAPHS Including: A New
Sobmogrine, Controlled by Wireless,
Which May Rout Germans; A Camoufege Tank to Foot the Enemy: A
clual Buttle Seine on the AustroItalian Front; Freding a Monater British Gun; The Spoils of War Picked Up
on the Battlefield.
OCENPA AT ANYMONY. SCENES AT ANNISTON, ALA., WHERE NATIONAL GUARD OF THE DIS-TRICT IS TO TRAIN. LADIEN' DAY AT THE MUNICIPAL POOLS.

Tomorrow in The SUNDAY STAR

COAL HEARING TO BE

Will Be Given Opportunity

Article by German Chancellor Res urrected to Show Political

"What democrat, in view of the miserable flasco of parliamentarism in
England, of the republican constitution
in France, can demand parliamentary
rule in Germany?" Dr. Michaelis asked
"Who will dare to touch the emperor's
military authority?" He challenged
those who "wish to place the noose of
ministerial responsibility to the law
about the neck of the chancellor."

After paying a tribute to the socialists, Dr. Michaelis rebuked the conservatives, saying they opposed franchise
reform and an inheritance tax to protect their own power and pocketbooks,
and determined their policy in regard
to other legislation by personal instead
of national interests.

NEW YORK EXPECTS CLASH

OVER SOAP BOX ORATORY

The pontiff's document will be considered with the deference due to the
sidered with the deference due to the
sidered with the deference due to the
sidered with the deference due to the
the author, but not with
the idea that it necessarily calls for
a reply, because it raises no new issues
and simply seeks to put the belligerents in the position they occupied at
the beginning of hostilities, which, it
is pointed out, is an absolute imposment chosen for the sending of the
ment chosen for the sending of the
moter when the military situation on
the Russian and Rumanian fronts tempowers—and on the proposition of the
powers—and on the proposition of the
powers—an

tion to test their right to continue criticising Great Britain, to which Cleveland Moffett, the author, objected recently and was arrested.

Membership in the vigilants was increased to ninety today.

Which, it is held, alone can prevent another.

Catholic Gaulois makes a distinction between the solerm office of the pontiff in decreeing articles of faith and the expression of purely human (Continued on Seventh Page 1)

GERMANIC ALLIES DIFFER AS TO PEACE | REPULSE GERMANS

Austria Wishes Favorable An- Teuton Attacks Fail Completeswer to Pope-Bulgars Covet Occupied Areas.

BERLIN REPLY TO WAIT FRENCH MAKE PROGRESS

COPENHAGEN, August 18 .- The Geron the Pope's peace proposals and an official statement issued early this answer probably will be delayed consid-orably while the four central powers. "The enemy early today delivered anerably while the four central powers are endeavoring to reconcile somewhat other counter attack against our redivergent views and interests regarding northwest of Lens. His troops were

A cordial article in the Cologne Ga- fighting, in which we secured a few zette perhaps presages the German point prisoners. There was considerable hosof view by declaring it is the duty of all tile artillery activity during the night governments to support any effort at east of Ypres. honorable mediation and pointing out that the Pope's action is in line with previous efforts of Germany.

Austria for Favorable Reply.

Austria for Favorable Reply.

It is evident that Austria-Hungary will throw its full weight in favor of an affirmatitive answer to the Pope's welcome proposal just as Bulgaria, which recently has been manifesting extreme sensitiveness upon Austro-German discussion of the future of Macedonia, will flatly and vehemently oppose any acceptance of return of occupied areas. The note which was sent direct to the emperor by the Pope was published in the morning papers.

While the newspaper Germania, as befits its representative Catholic character, is decidedly optimistic regarding the prospects for tangible results, most papers are rather skeptical as to the chances that it will lead to anything in the immediate future.

Stand of Pan-Germans

Stand of Pan-Germans.

At least the pan-German papers insist that peace on the proposed basis is utterly impossible. The Berlin Tages Zeitung in its comment says the evacuation of Belgium and all occupied regions of France is impossible, just because independent Belgium henceforth would be an irreconcilable enemy of Germany and it must be subordinated to the security of Germany's frontiers. Even the plan of the former German chancellor, Dr. von Bethmann Hollweg, for a Polish protectorate is rejected, because the Poles have shown themselves ungrateful for favors granted them.

"There was great activity in the air yesterday, although a strong west wind made fighting difficult. Our airplanes had greatly the better of the fighting and were able to carry out their task successfully in spite of the determined efforts on the part of hostile aircraft to interfere with their work.

Our activity commenced before dawn and continued uninterruptedly throughout the day. Hostile airdromes were cleared with machine gun fire from a height of a few score feet. A total of nipe and one-half tons of bombs was dropped on the enemy's airdromes, railway stations and billets. At least the pan-German papers insist!

Oppose Pope's Program.

mand does not necessarily include mak, the responsibility for the success of in the forthcoming loan in the hands of the responsibility for the success of the forthcoming loan in the hands of the hands of the forthcoming loan in the hands of the hands o

Pope's Plan Considered Shortsighted by Paris;

religious weekly, which has now been Benedict has not modified the situation resurrected. It condemns parliament-arism on the one hand and on the other the selfish policy of the conservative party.

"What democrat, in view of the mis-erable flasco of parliament arism."

Benedict has not modined the situation
from the viewpoint of the entent al-lies, who have no reason to depart from the attitude they outlined in re-ply to President Wilson's peace note. The pontiff's document will be con-sidered with the deference due to the

Deemed Fatal Defect.

This is considered the fatal defect in the pont. If s plan—that the allies would be precluded from economic measures for their protection against the central elowed to profit from her invasion of Belgium and northers frame.

NEW YORK, August 18.—Madison Square, Union Square and street corners along Broadway in the theatrical district where soap-box orators nightly air their views, under the guise of free speech, have been chosen as the centers of attack tonight by squads of vigilants will be constitutionalists, who plan to see that the rights of free speech are not impaired. At the same time the friends of Irish freedom have announced their intention to test their right to continue criticising Great Britain, to which I is held, alone can prevent tion to test their right to continue criticising Great Britain, to which I cleveland Moffett, the author, objected recently and was arrested.

Deemed Fatal Defect.

This is considered the fatal defect in the pont. If s plan—that the allies would be from econsidered from economic measures is 18 and 17. Our line way 18 18 and 18. Our line way 18 18 and 18. Our leaves a Grand continues in this sector.

This is considered the allies would be entire before the ecition against the central ellowed to profit from her invasion of the central ellowed to profit from her invasion of the central ellowed to profit from her invasion of the central ellowed to profit from her invasion of the central ellowed to profit from her invasion of the central ellowed to profit from her invasion of

BRITISH SHARPLY

ONE CENT.

ly After Fierce Fighting in Flanders.

LONDON, August 18.-The German nan foreign office is not yet ready to troops in Flanders were again com announce the government's standpoint sharp fighting, according to the British

> cently captured positions immediately in this neighborhood and also north-

Twenty-Four German Guns Seized

The statement of last night reads "On the Ypres battle front our allies have improved their position slightly in

port line was reached and many casualtie were inflicted.

of Alsace-Lorraine."

The newspaper regrets that the papal note makes it needlessly difficult in regard to this and other points for the Germans to recognize the praise-worthy intent of the pontiff's efforts.

"The reference to Poelkappelle obstitutional procession of the British failed to pression that the British failed to reach some imaginary and distant objective just as in the German official jective just as in the German official statement Thursday it was implied that the British objective on the Lens front was Vendin-le-Vieil. It is sufficient to COPENHAGEN., August 18.—Interesting light on the political creed of Dr. Georg Michaelis, the German chancellor, is given in an article which he wrote in December, 1914, for an obscure religious weekly, which has now been the second of the peace proposal of Pope religious weekly, which has now been the second of the peace proposal of Pope is that the peace proposal of Pope is the statement also points out that the derivative of the peace proposal of Pope is the p

PARIS, August 18.—The French last right made further progress in Bel-gium north of the road between Bix-schoote and Langomarck, it is an-nounced officially. They captured a strong point of support east of the Steenbeke river. German attacks on

ust 16 and 17. Our line was re-estab lished completely. Heavy artiller fighting continues in this sector.

Two casualties are reported among the civilian population.
"On the right bank of the Meuse the artillery struggle continued violent in